

OFFICIAL

July 2025 THE DIARY OF ST MARY'S DROYLSDEN



***A welcoming all-age community growing
and sharing God's love.***

Rector

Reverend Cath Hewison 0161 370 1569

Associate Minister

Reverend Nancy Alexander

Church Wardens

Pat Catterall

0161 370 0039

Beth Cutler

0161 376 9407

*Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your souls before him;
God is a refuge for us.
Psalm 62: 8*

July Services 2025



6th July - 10.30am – Holy Communion

2 Kings 5: 1-14 and Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

9th July – 6.00pm – Informal Holy Communion

13th July - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Amos 7: 7-17 and Luke 10: 25-37

20th July - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Amos 8: 1-12 and Luke 10: 38-42

27th July – 10.30am – Morning Worship

Hosea 1: 2-20 and Luke 11: 1-13

28th July – 12noon Fellowship Lunch and Holy Communion

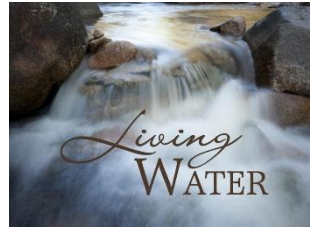
**Please join us for Tea and
coffee in the Church Room
after the service**

A Refreshing Drink for a Hot day!

The sun is shining, and the weather is warm and balmy – lovely! Unfortunately, the downside with so many hot, dry days is that with water levels lower than they've been for years, we're facing a summer of drought. We are urged to be careful with our water use, and to reuse water for the garden. It is a reminder of how vital water is for life, and how little control we have over it.

The Bible often draws on the idea of thirst in a hot, dry land to speak of our thirst for God, our need for God, and the parallel between the essential need for water for life, and the need for God, too.

Whether you are someone who's enjoying the warmth and the sunshine, or whether you feel that you're walking in a hard, dry desert at the moment, you might find that these words from Psalm 63 resonate with you: 'God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.' While we are aware of our very real need for water to sustain our lives (and the lives of our pets and plants), and as we appreciate the refreshment of cool drinks on a hot day, let's hear again these words:



- Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. John 7:37
- To the one who is thirsty I will give water from the spring of life Revelation 21:6
- The water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life John 4:14

Enjoy the summer sunshine (remembering water and sunscreen!), take care of those who are vulnerable to the heat, and remember too, to draw near to God to drink deeply of the water that only he can give.

Revd Cath

Mid-Week Informal Holy Communion

An informal mid-week service of Holy Communion is being held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6pm.



Everyone is very welcome, especially those who find attending services at the weekend difficult. If you know anyone who may be interested in attending, please pass on the information.

Prayer Tree

You may have noticed that a new prayer tree is now located at the back of the church, next to the Book of Remembrance. There are pens and cards to write your prayers and prayer requests on. Please be assured every card left is prayed over with faith, courage and strength that each one is heard no matter how small.



Children's Group

Sunday School activities are now available during term time, in the Church Room every 3rd Sunday for children in year one and above.

Tea and Toast Drop In

Tea and Toast Drop In. Every Wednesday morning from 9am during term-time. Everyone is welcome, come along for a chat and a chance to meet someone new.

Fellowship and Holy Communion



The fellowship lunch and Holy Communion Service for July will be at 12noon on Monday 28th July.



June's service will be Monday 23rd June at 12noon, everyone is very welcome. If you know of anyone who would like to come to this service, please let them know.

Bible Study Groups

Bible study groups meet in the Emmaus Room twice a month on Tuesday evening or Thursday afternoon to which everyone is welcome.



These are informal groups and the studies usually include a video to watch then questions for discussion followed by a brew and a biscuit or slice of cake.

If anyone is interested in joining one of the groups, or would like more information, please have a chat with Charlotte or Stephanie (Tuesday group) or Christine, Pat or Jim (Thursday group).



Tuesday 1st July 7pm (note change of time)

Speaker – Rev. Nancy

Hospital Chaplaincy

Everyone Very Welcome

Plant Swap?

I have three beautiful pink peony plants which I already divided last year and gave a couple to my neighbour, and wondered if anyone would be willing to swap a pink one for a red one at the end of the season? (I'll get Derek to do the hard work!)

Christine



2025 Heritage Weekend is Saturday 13th September. We would like to be able to open church, put on different displays and welcome visitors.

If you think you might like to be involved, please come along to an informal meeting after the coffee morning on Saturday 5th July at 11.30am.

The coffee morning in September will be changed from Saturday 6th September to Saturday 13th September.

Thank you



On Wednesday 4th June, an intrepid band of volunteers joined once again to prepare crafts representing Pentecost for youngsters to enjoy (and relieve parents, grandparents and carers for a couple of hours during a wet week).

We didn't have many people come along but everyone that did seemed to enjoy it and the adults were grateful to chat to other adults for a couple of hours and everyone got two hot dogs each.

Thank you to everyone involved.



Myro's Mural

At St. Mary's School, we have been working on enhancing our learning environment over recent years with artwork linked to our distinctly Christian nature.

With a new, large, blank space becoming available outside the head teacher's office, we thought it was time to call in a professional.

On Wednesday 11th June, we were visited by an incredible artist called @Myrodoodles.

The staff and pupils had given ideas of places, words and symbols that they wanted included in the mural design, but the layout was left with Myroslava.

She worked from 10:30am until 3:15pm, chatting to pupils and staff as they passed and admired her work. There was no drawn-out plan, no pencil lines, just flow and finesse.

On the next page is a photograph of the finished mural. Each time you see it, a different element jumps out for you to focus on.

The St Mary's Church building is beautifully represented front and centre alongside the school, highlighting our close bond. Myroslava's depiction shows the sun emerging from behind the Church, flooding the surrounding area with light reminding us of God's **presence** as the light of the World.

Emma Quinn

Assistant Headteacher

St Mary's CE Primary School



Children's Group – Help!

The children's group, which meets on the third Sunday of each month during term time, is looking for a little bit of help please.

Unfortunately, Heather, who helps with the group, is moving house and isn't able to help now and for safeguarding reasons, two people are needed to keep the group running.

If you think you are able to help out, just once each month or would like to know more, please have a chat with me.

Thank you

Kathryn Hampson

Confirmation

If you have been baptised but haven't been confirmed yet and are thinking of taking this next step in your journey of faith, please have a chat with Rev Cath or Rev Nancy.

There will be a Confirmation service in October, with some preparation beforehand.

God Never Leaves Us

Doors may close, but windows open, letting in the sun.

God never leaves us in the dark, but gives to everyone – the power to look with eyes of hope towards a brighter view.

Through He bolts and bars the door, He opens windows too.

Ann Holland



We exist to make disciples of Jesus at the edges. Read on to see what this means, how we work – and how you can join in.

At the edges of our world, we are...

Many of us know people who are not connected to the church. But God hasn't given up on them.

Our call is to follow Jesus to the edges, beyond the church walls, out into the community and use our God-given creativity to help people discover that Jesus is for them.

Through imaginative activities such as arts, sports, youth mentoring, pioneering prison ministry, ethical enterprises – and so much more – we are seeing people become followers of Jesus in extraordinary ways.

From the streets of Honduras to communities in Hull, people are finding life-changing hope and sharing it with others.

Mission partner Garry Ion reports on Carlisle's Community Shed, from seasonal crafts to a former prisoner sharing his faith.

Whether being productive in the shed, nattering over a coffee or enjoying a Garry's chicken burger special butty, we remain very busy.

Unlike other Men's Shed projects, the Community Shed is open to both women and men who've usually been referred to us through social or mental health services and associated organisations and charities.

We also increasingly welcome new members through probation services and their Rebuilding Lives programme.

Care-full and prayer-full

What also sets us apart from most other sheds is our desire to care holistically for body, mind and spirit.

Endeavouring to tread carefully and prayerfully, we share our faith through conversation and life experiences.

The seasonal crafts are also a talking point about the gospel message: the planter and the seed of faith sown that flourishes, the bird box and God's love for his creation, and Christmas decorations and the coming of Emmanuel. Last year during our run up to Christmas we enjoyed fellowship in the shed using our Christmas tree decorations as a backdrop to Bible readings by candlelight.

Welcoming space

As winter approached, we started a new programme called Community Space. You may recall previous Warm Space initiatives across the country that came about due to the cost-of-living crisis and isolation after lockdown.

By request, our Community Space is an offshoot of this where we meet in the evenings, in a warm space adjoining the shed, for a more in-depth chat, cuppa and access to indoor games including table tennis, pool and darts.

It is nice to see several of the lads who have struggled previously with alcohol or drug addiction coming along. This is a problem which often increases at this time of year.

OFFICIAL

It has also been nice to find fellowship and see friends be transformed and grow in faith as we build friendship together.

Please pray for the work of the Church Mission Society

Lord Almighty,

We thank You for the work of the Church Mission Society in the United Kingdom and across the world, as they strive to share Your love and bring hope to those in need. May Your spirit guide their every endeavour, filling their hearts with courage, wisdom, and compassion.

Amen

St Mary's Church, Droylsden

Coffee Morning

Saturday 5th July

9.30am – 11.00am

In the Church Room

OFFICIAL

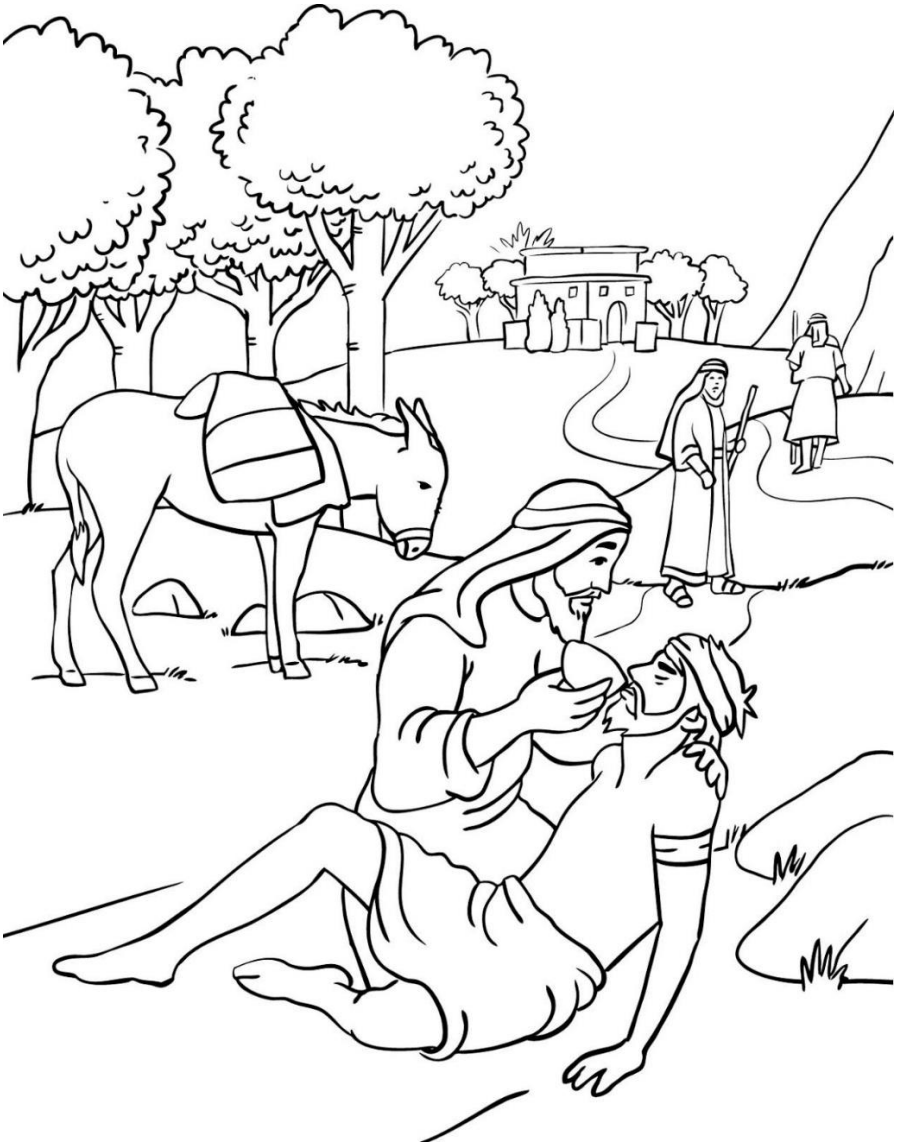


All Welcome

Proceeds to Church Mission Society



A Picture to colour
The Good Samaritan



Read Luke 10: 30 -37

Deadline for the diary is always the 2nd weekend of the month unless there are school holidays when articles are required as soon as possible please.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this diary, without YOU it wouldn't be possible. If you would like to contribute to future publications, please contact me by email:

christine.withers12@talktalk.net

Telephone 0161 371 8825

St Mary's Church Website is

www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk

Parochial Church Council:

Pat Catterall and Beth Cutler (Wardens), Charlotte Burrows, Joyce Cox, Paul Davies (Secretary), Kathryn Hampson, Ann Holland, Jim Smith, Barbara Walton.

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Susan Marsh, Stephanie Rigg, Christine Withers

Sides People

Maureen Allison, Elaine Burrows, Carole Clayton, Joyce Cox, Julie Farrow, Gaynor Kirby.

Treasurer: Kathryn Hampson, Electoral Roll: Lindsay Artingstall

Church Flowers and Bookstall - Details from Church

Mothers Union - Details from Church

St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Primary School

Head Teacher, Mr C Quinn - 370 3948

250th Manchester Scout Group

Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers - 07973739041

5th Droylsden Brownie Guides - 339 0016

Rainbow Pack - 301 4251

St John's Band - 285 3583